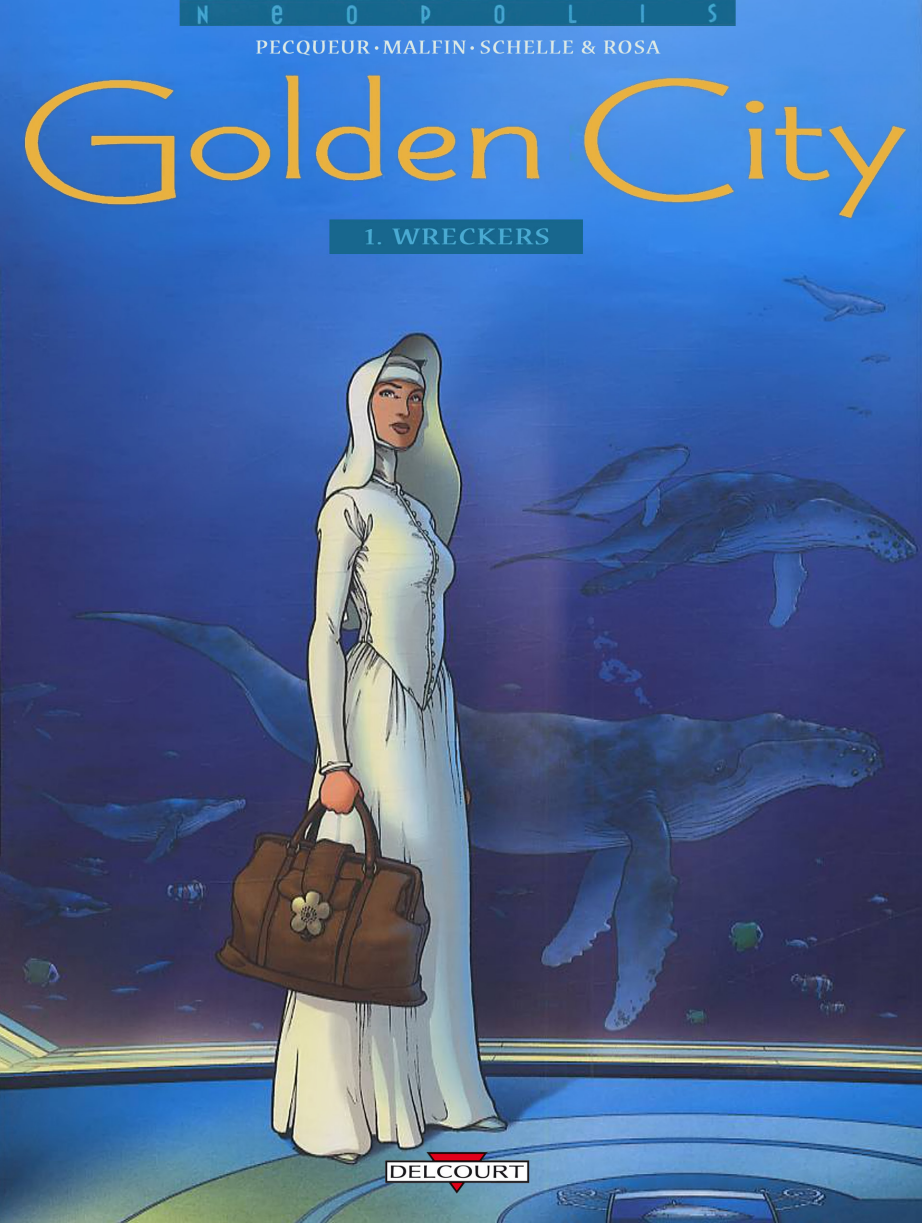
NEOPOLIS

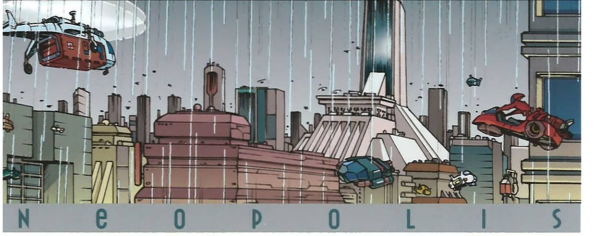
PECQUEUR · MALFIN · SCHELLE & ROSA

Golden City

1. WRECKERS



DELCOURT



Golden City

1. WRECKERS

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Translation
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DELCOURT

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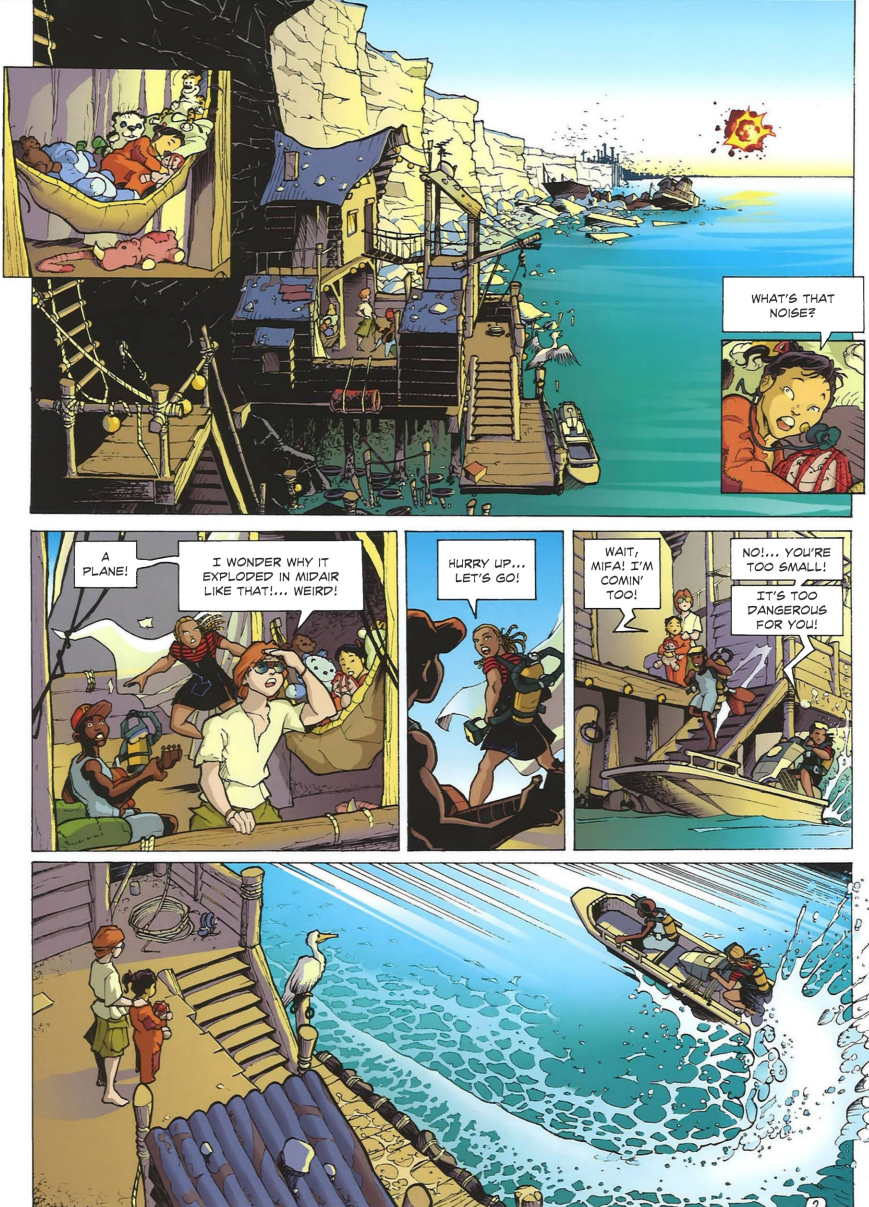
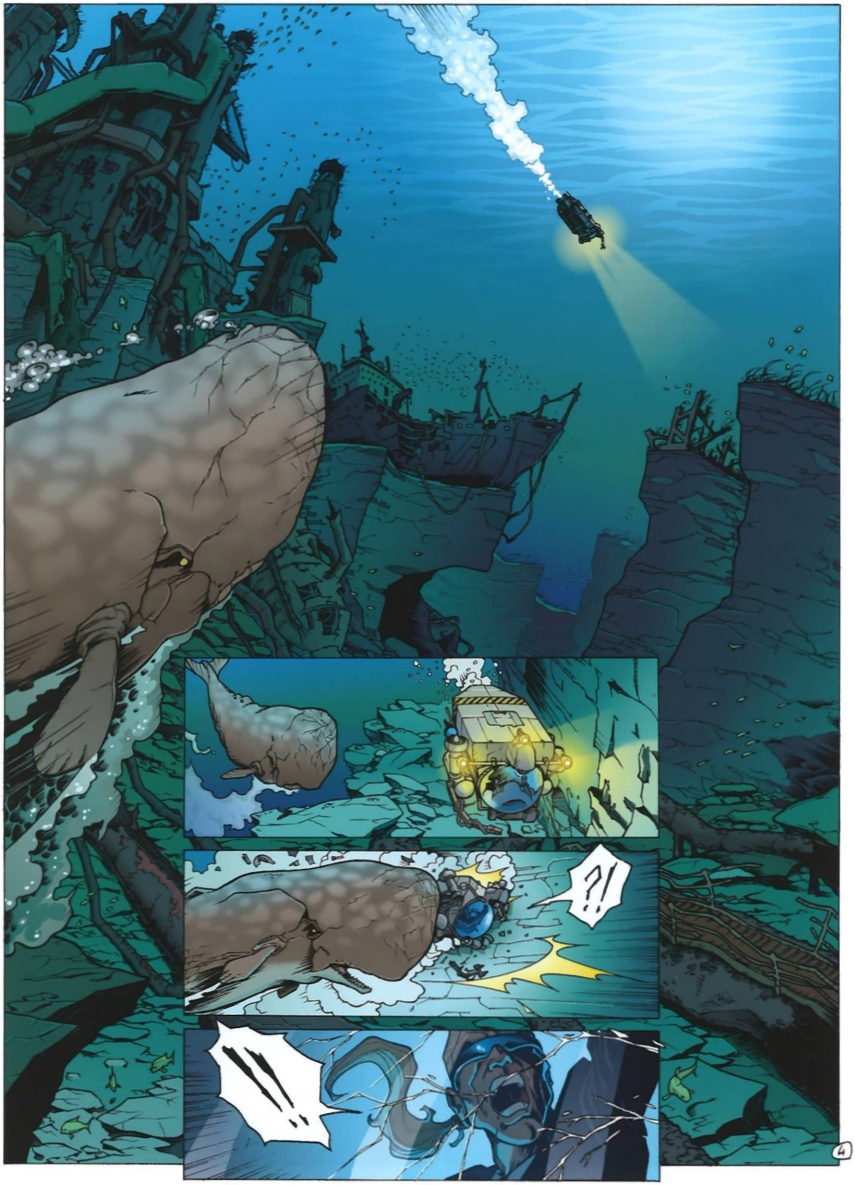
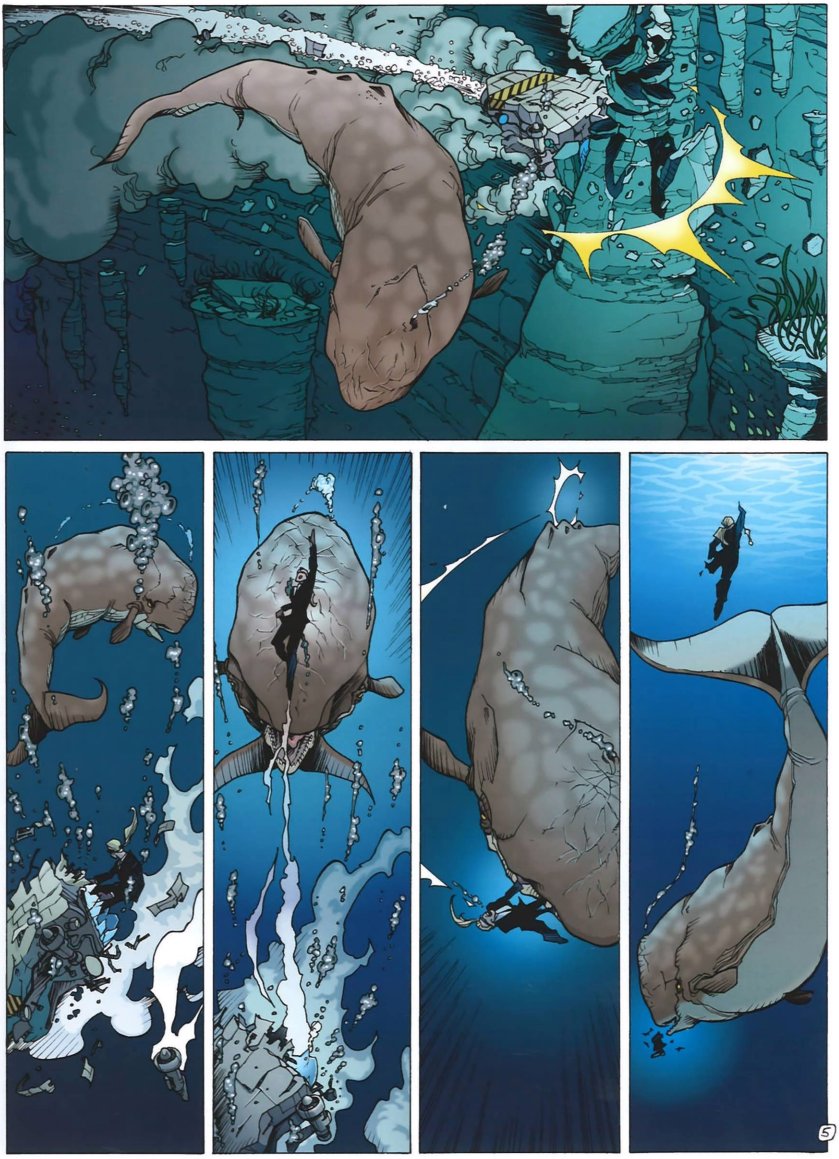
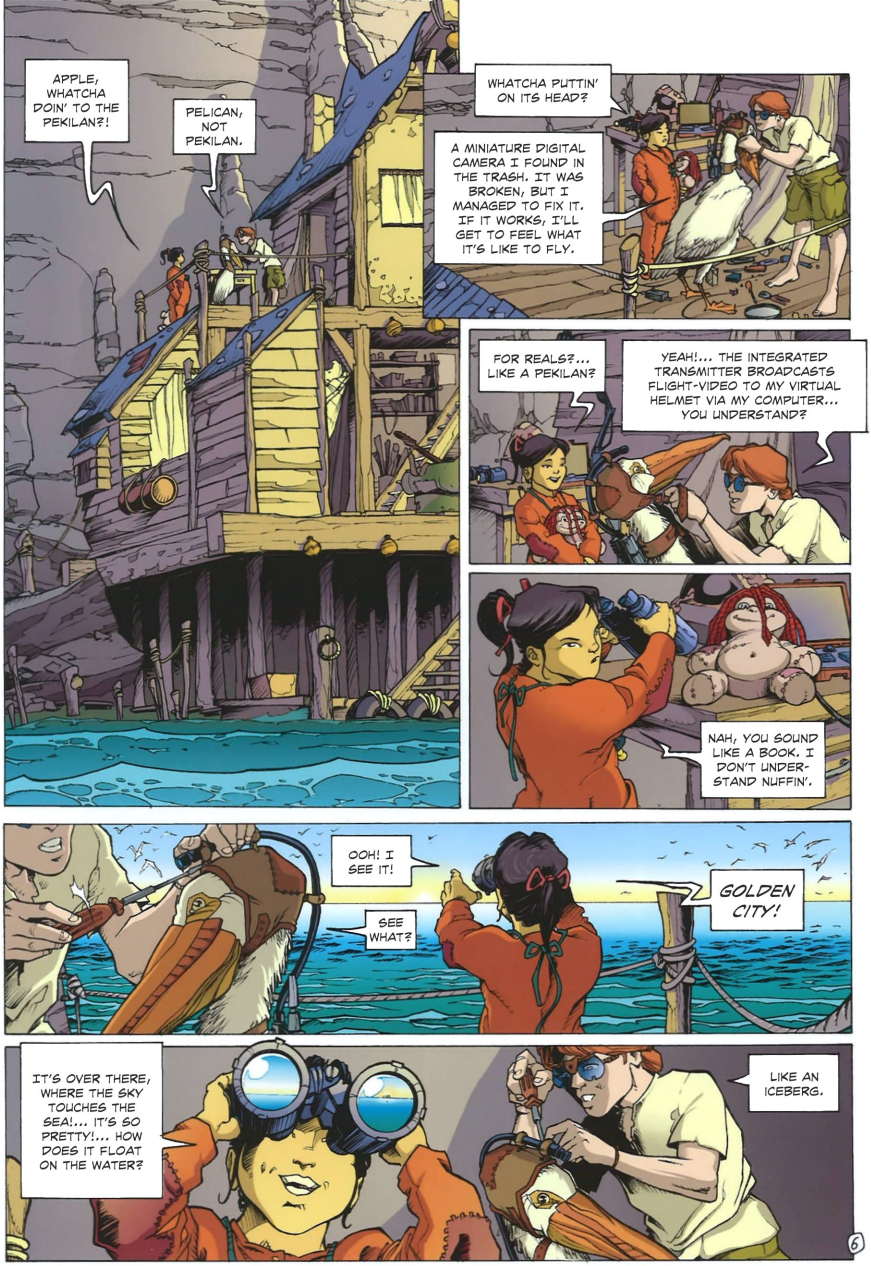
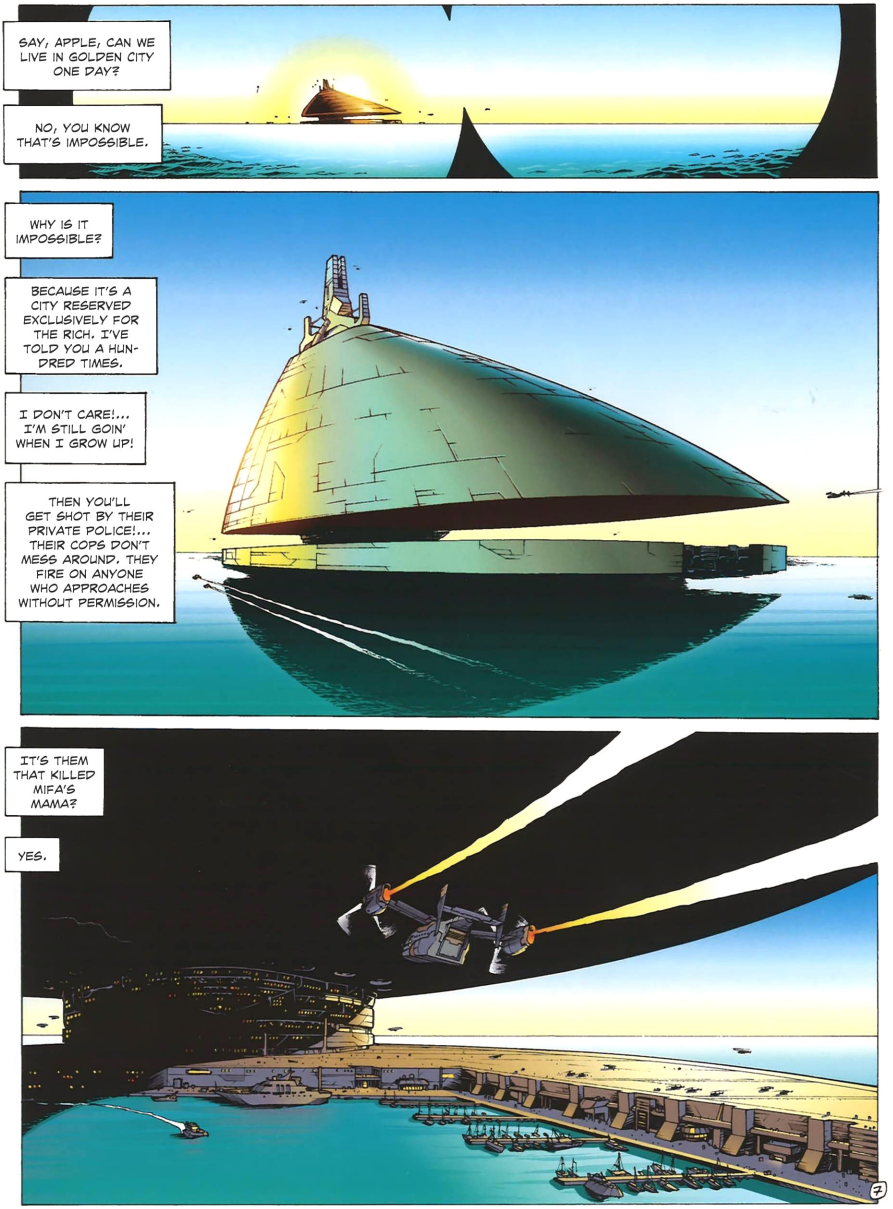

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
A PLANE!
I WONDER WHY IT EXPLODED IN MIDAIR LIKE THAT!... WEIRD!
HURRY UP... LET'S GO!
WAIT, MIFA! I'M COMIN' TOO!
NO!... YOU'RE TOO SMALL!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR YOU!

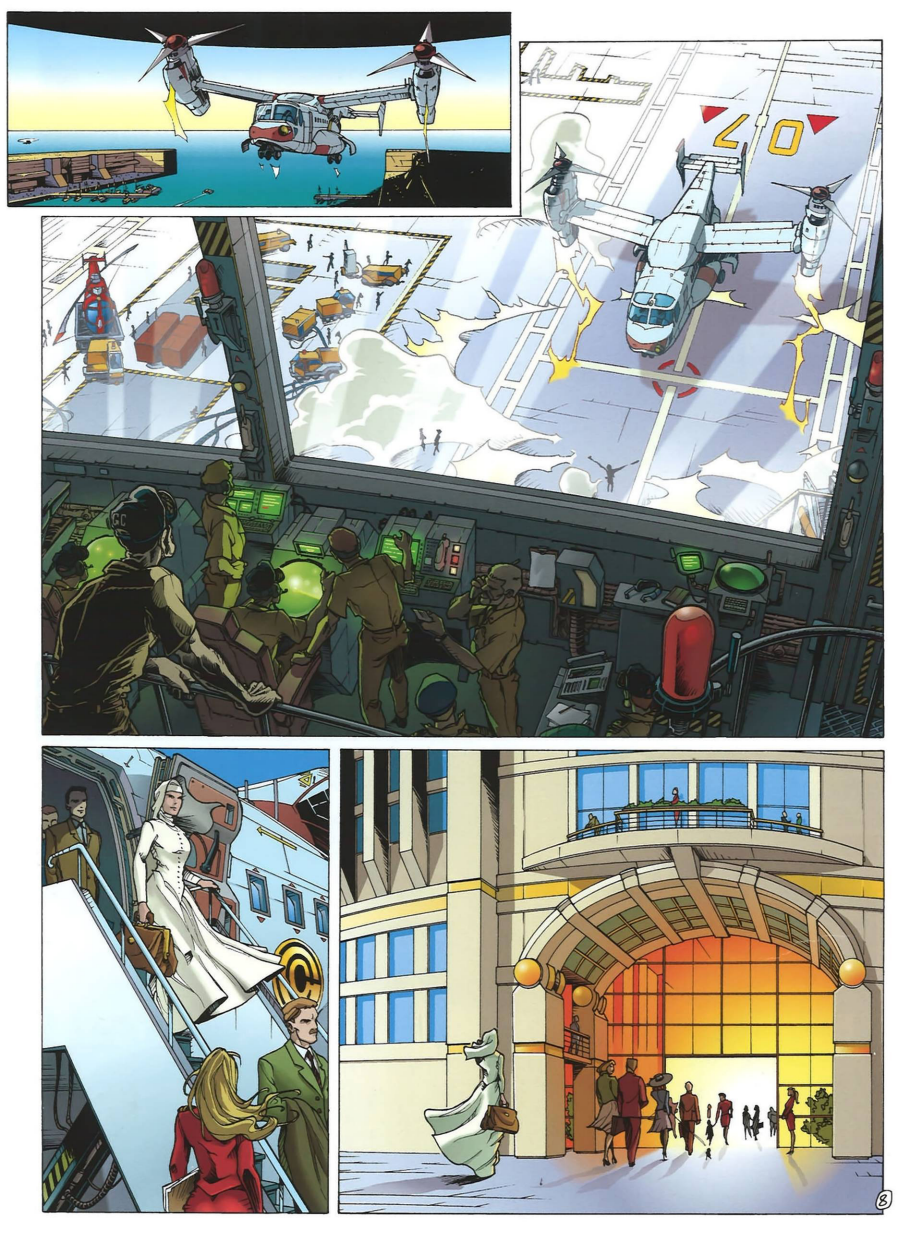
HELLO... BRASOV HERE... IT ALL WENT AS PLANNED. THE PLANE CRASHED INTO THE SEA ABOUT A NAUTICAL MILE OFFSHORE.
PERFECT!... NOW DIVE DOWN TO THE WRECKAGE AND LOCATE THE PASSENGER... WHAT?... NO, I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN THE GIRL.
OK!... I'LL CALL BACK WHEN IT'S DONE.

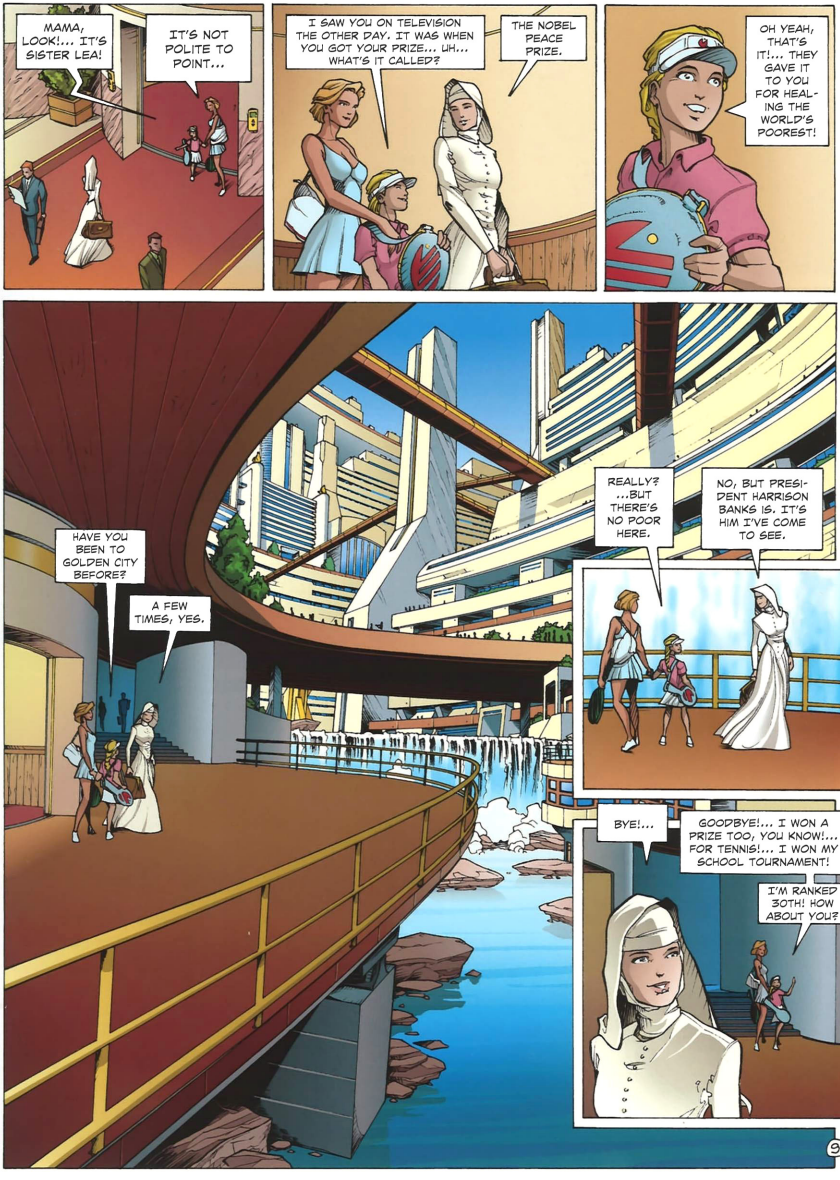


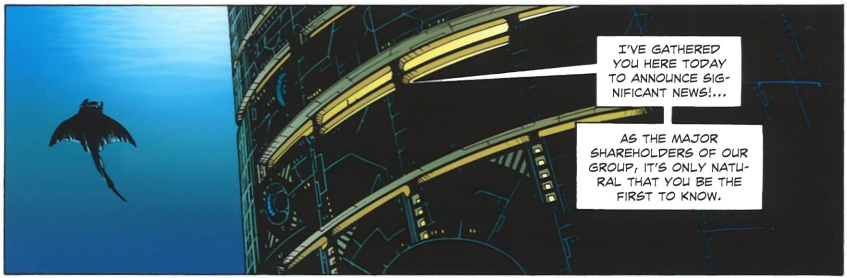



APPLE, WHATCHA DOIN' TO THE PEKILAN?!
PELICAN, NOT PEKILAN.
WHATCHA PUTTIN' ON ITS HEAD?
A MINIATURE DIGITAL CAMERA I FOUND IN THE TRASH. IT WAS BROKEN, BUT I MANAGED TO FIX IT. IF IT WORKS, I'LL GET TO FEEL WHAT IT'S LIKE TO FLY.
FOR REALS?... LIKE A PEKILAN?
YEAH!... THE INTEGRATED TRANSMITTER BROADCASTS FLIGHT-VIDEO TO MY VIRTUAL HELMET VIA MY COMPUTER... YOU UNDERSTAND?
NAH, YOU SOUND LIKE A BOOK. I DON'T UNDER-STAND NUFFIN'.
OOH! I SEE IT!
SEE WHAT?
GOLDEN CITY!
IT'S OVER THERE, WHERE THE SKY TOUCHES THE SEA!... IT'S SO PRETTY!... HOW DOES IT FLOAT ON THE WATER?
LIKE AN ICEBERG.

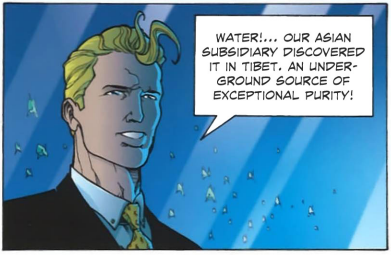

SAY, APPLE, CAN WE LIVE IN GOLDEN CITY ONE DAY?
NO, YOU KNOW THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
WHY IS IT IMPOSSIBLE?
BECAUSE IT'S A CITY RESERVED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE RICH. I'VE TOLD YOU A HUNDRED TIMES.
I DON'T CARE!... I'M STILL GOIN' WHEN I GROW UP!
THEN YOU'LL GET SHOT BY THEIR PRIVATE POLICE!... THEIR COPS DON'T MESS AROUND. THEY FIRE ON ANYONE WHO APPROACHES WITHOUT PERMISSION.
IT'S THEM THAT KILLED MIFA'S MAMA?
YES.




MAMA, LOOK!.. IT'S SISTER LEA!
IT'S NOT POLITE TO POINT...
I SAW YOU ON TELEVISION THE OTHER DAY. IT WAS WHEN YOU GOT YOUR PRIZE... UH... WHAT'S IT CALLED?
THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE.
OH YEAH, THAT'S IT!... THEY GAVE IT TO YOU FOR HEALING THE WORLD'S POOREST!
HAVE YOU BEEN TO GOLDEN CITY BEFORE?
A FEW TIMES, YES.
REALLY? ...BUT THERE'S NO POOR HERE.
NO, BUT PRESIDENT HARRISON BANKS IS. IT'S HIM I'VE COME TO SEE.
BYE!...
GOODBYE!... I WON A PRIZE TOO, YOU KNOW!... FOR TENNIS!... I WON MY SCHOOL TOURNAMENT!
I'M RANKED 30TH! HOW ABOUT YOU?

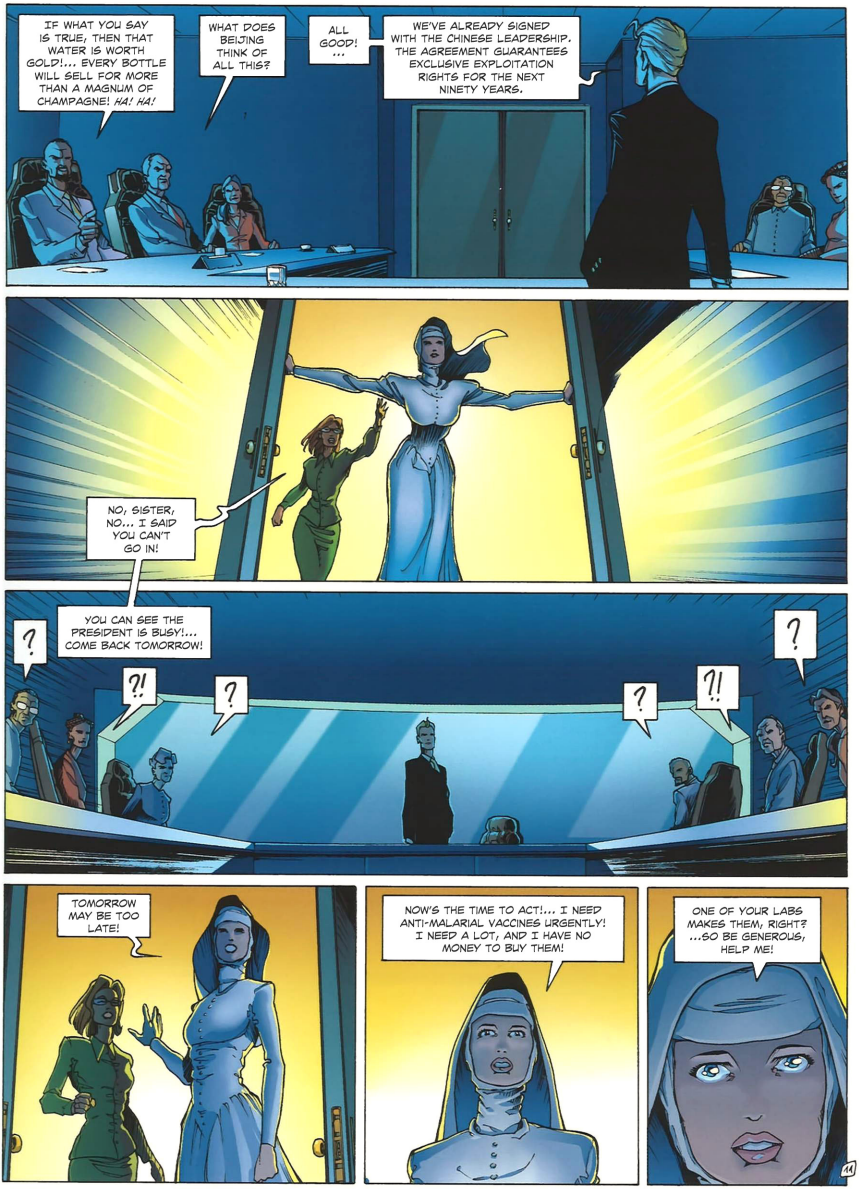

I'VE GATHERED YOU HERE TODAY TO ANNOUNCE SIGNIFICANT NEWS!...
AS THE MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS OF OUR GROUP, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT YOU BE THE FIRST TO KNOW.

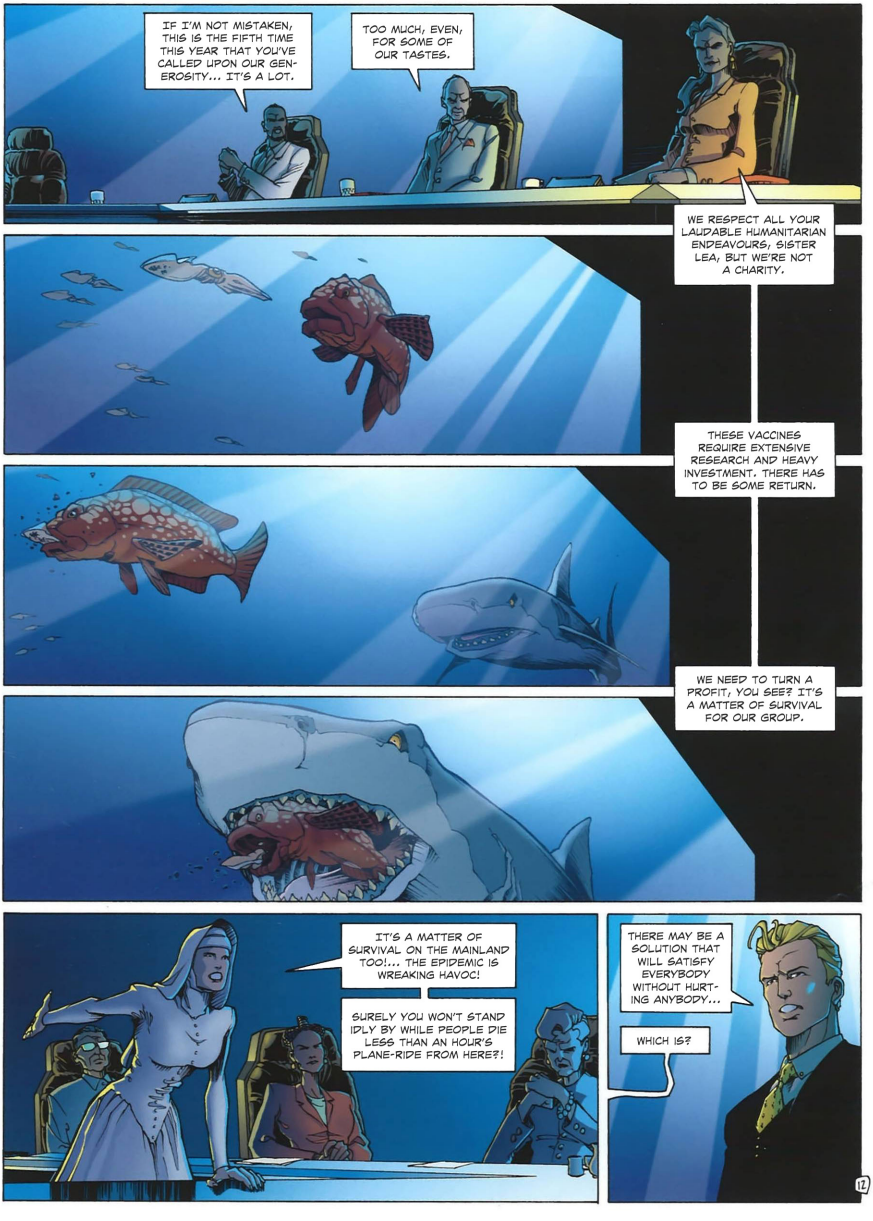
WE'RE ALL ON TENTERHOOKS!... WHAT IS IT?


WATER!... OUR ASIAN SUBSIDIARY DISCOVERED IT IN TIBET. AN UNDERGROUND SOURCE OF EXCEPTIONAL PURITY!

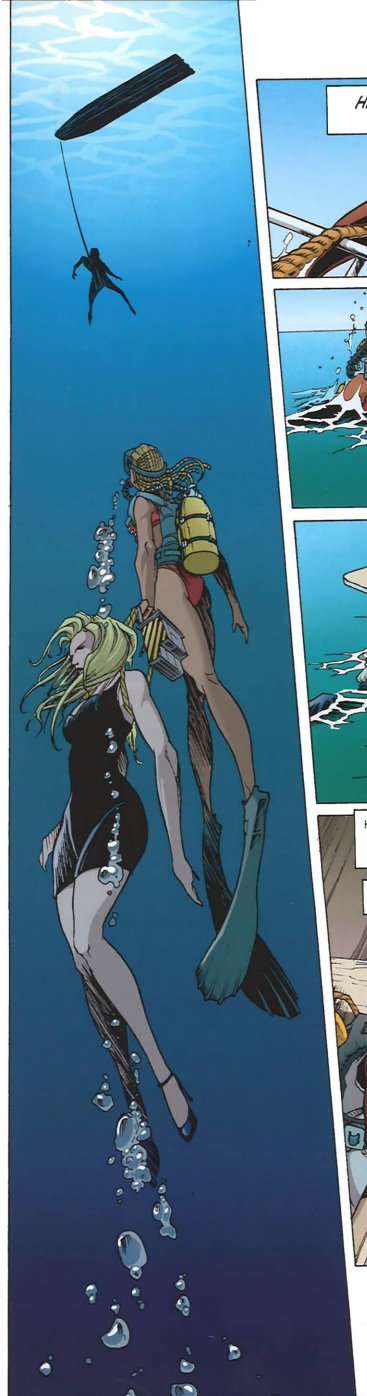
TRULY?... THIS DISCOVERY RUNS CONTRARY TO WHAT OUR SCIENTISTS ARE CLAIMING. ACCORDING TO THEM, ALL THE WORLD'S AQUIFERS HAVE BEEN SATURATED WITH POLLUTION FOR A VERY LONG TIME.

EXCEPT THIS ONE, MISS JOHNSON!... THE VARIOUS TESTS CONDUCTED BY OUR LABS ARE CONCLUSIVE: NO TRACE OF POLLUTION IN ANY FORM WHATSOEVER!... NOT A HINT OF BACTERIA!... IT'S PURE MINERAL WATER!

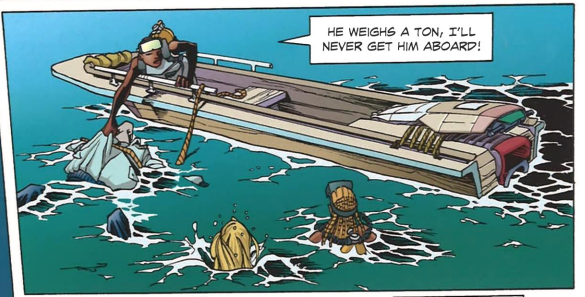

IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THEN THAT WATER IS WORTH GOLD!... EVERY BOTTLE WILL SELL FOR MORE THAN A MAGNUM OF CHAMPAGNE! HA! HA!
WHAT DOES BEIJING THINK OF ALL THIS?
ALL GOOD! ...
WE'VE ALREADY SIGNED WITH THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP. THE AGREEMENT GUARANTEES EXCLUSIVE EXPLOITATION RIGHTS FOR THE NEXT NINETY YEARS.
NO, SISTER, NO... I SAID YOU CAN'T GO IN!
YOU CAN SEE THE PRESIDENT IS BUSY!... COME BACK TOMORROW!
?
?!
?
?
?!
?
TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!
NOW'S THE TIME TO ACT!... I NEED ANTI-MALARIAL VACCINES URGENTLY! I NEED A LOT, AND I HAVE NO MONEY TO BUY THEM!
ONE OF YOUR LABS MAKES THEM, RIGHT? ...SO BE GENEROUS, HELP ME!


IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THIS IS THE FIFTH TIME THIS YEAR THAT YOU'VE CALLED UPON OUR GENEROSITY... IT'S A LOT.
TOO MUCH, EVEN, FOR SOME OF OUR TASTES.
WE RESPECT ALL YOUR LAUDABLE HUMANITARIAN ENDEAVOURS, SISTER LEA, BUT WE'RE NOT A CHARITY.
THESE VACCINES REQUIRE EXTENSIVE RESEARCH AND HEAVY INVESTMENT. THERE HAS TO BE SOME RETURN.
WE NEED TO TURN A PROFIT, YOU SEE? IT'S A MATTER OF SURVIVAL FOR OUR GROUP.
IT'S A MATTER OF SURVIVAL ON THE MAINLAND TOO!... THE EPIDEMIC IS WREAKING HAVOC!
SURELY YOU WON'T STAND IDLY BY WHILE PEOPLE DIE LESS THAN AN HOUR'S PLANE-RIDE FROM HERE?!
THERE MAY BE A SOLUTION THAT WILL SATISFY EVERYBODY WITHOUT HURTING ANYBODY...
WHICH IS?

A TRADE: OUR VACCINES FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN OUR NEXT PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.
YOU'RE KIDDING, I HOPE!... I'M A NUN, NOT A MOVIE STAR!
IF I APPEAR IN YOUR ADVERTISING I'D INSTANTLY LOSE ALL CREDIBILITY IN THE EYES OF THE UNDERPRIVILEGED I'VE CHAMPIONED ALL THESE YEARS!
ON THE CONTRARY!... THEY'D BE TRULY GRATEFUL FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR THEM.
ESPECIALLY AS WE'LL SPECIFY THAT YOU'RE PARTICIPATING IN OUR CAMPAIGN FREE OF CHARGE TO THANK US FOR HAVING PROVIDED THE VACCINES.
I'M NOT ASKING FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE... JUST A VERY BRIEF APPEARANCE IN A COMMERCIAL WE'LL SOON FILM FOR THE LAUNCH OF OUR NEW MINERAL WATER.
A VERY PURE WATER, SISTER LEA... AS PURE AS YOUR SOUL.
MY SOUL ISN'T PURE AT THIS MOMENT, SIR.
MY ENTIRE BEING RAILS AGAINST THIS ODIOUS BARGAIN I'M FORCED TO ACCEPT!... BUT TOO MANY INNOCENT LIVES ARE AT STAKE!
THEN IT'S A YES?... PERFECT! I'LL CALL IMMEDIATELY AND HAVE THE LAB LOAD THE VACCINES ONTO THE HELICOPTER THAT WILL RETURN YOU TO THE MAINLAND.

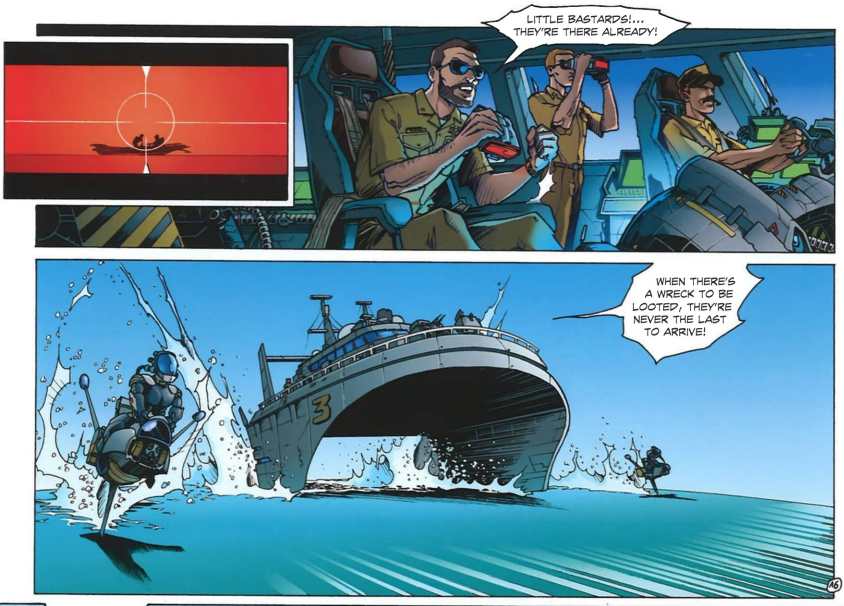


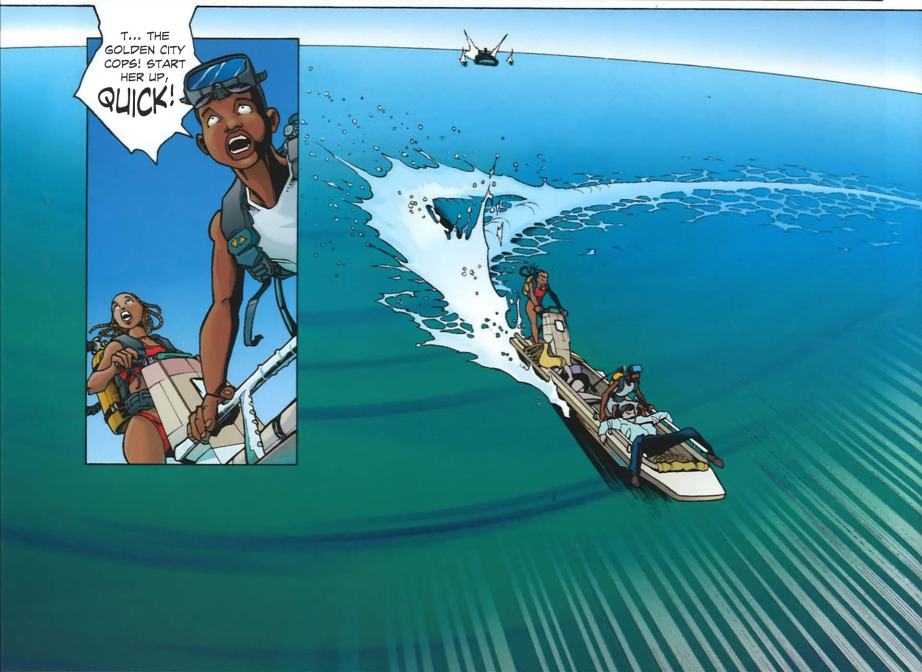
HNF!... HNF!... PFF!...
WHAT'S SO HEAVY?

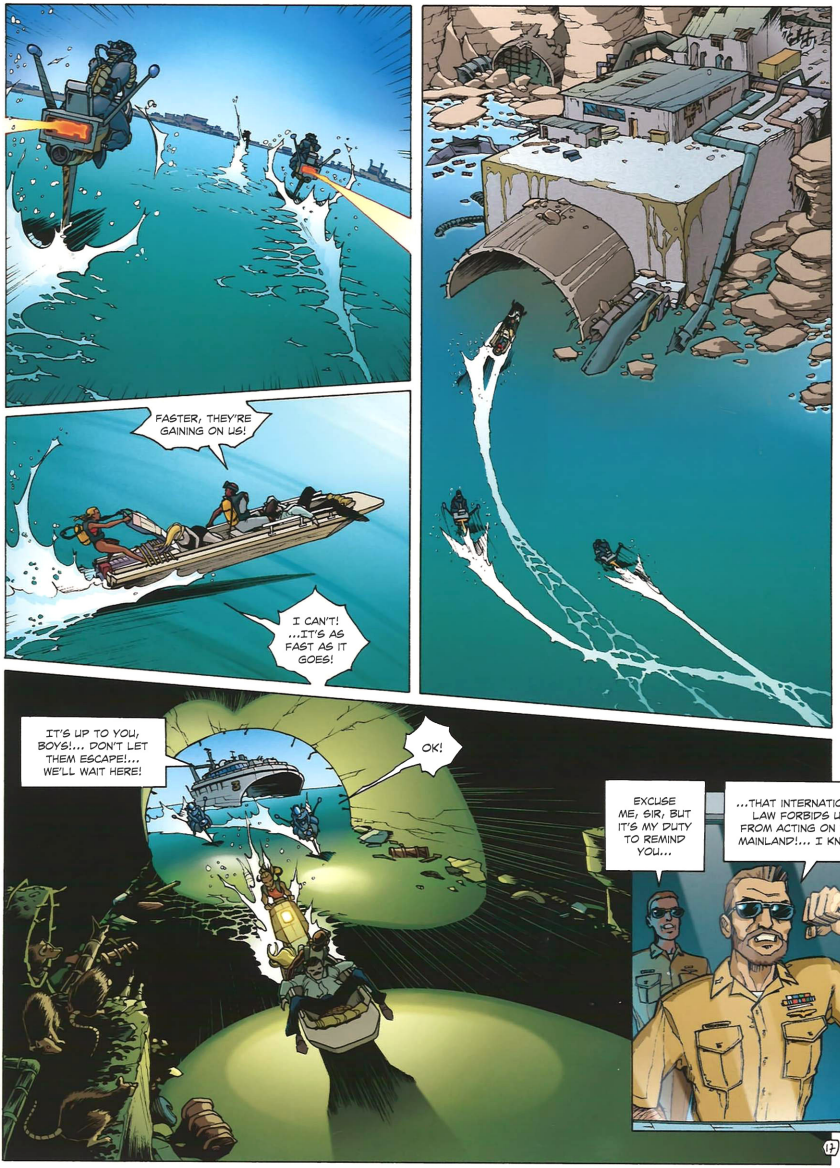

HE WEIGHS A TON; I'LL NEVER GET HIM ABOARD!

HANG ON; I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND!... HERE, TAKE THIS!
WHAT'S THAT?

THE BLACK BOX FOR APPLE... HE LOVES THIS STUFF.


LITTLE BASTARDS!... THEY'RE THERE ALREADY!
WHEN THERE'S A WRECK TO BE LOOTED, THEY'RE NEVER THE LAST TO ARRIVE!
3


T... THE GOLDEN CITY COPS! START HER UP, QUICK!


FASTER, THEY'RE GAINING ON US!
I CAN'T! ...IT'S AS FAST AS IT GOES!
IT'S UP TO YOU, BOYS!... DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE!... WE'LL WAIT HERE!
OK!
EXCUSE ME, SIR, BUT IT'S MY DUTY TO REMIND YOU...
...THAT INTERNATIONAL LAW FORBIDS US FROM ACTING ON THE MAINLAND?... I KNOW!

BUT THEY'RE GOLDEN CITY RESIDENTS!... SO SCREW THE LAW, WE'RE GOING TO RESCUE THEM!
DO YOU THINK THEY'RE STILL ALIVE? IT MUST HAVE BEEN A TERRIBLE SHOCK WHEN THEIR PLANE HIT THE SEA.
NO... SADLY, I THINK THEY DIED ON IMPACT.
BUT REGARDLESS, I'M NOT GOING TO ABANDON THEM TO THOSE GREEDY KIDS WHO ONLY FISHED THEM OUT OF THE WATER TO STEAL THEIR MONEY AND CLOTHES.
THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER!... DUMP THE FATTY!... THAT'S WHAT'S SLOWING US DOWN!... HE'S TOO HEAVY!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!... DUMP HIM, I SAID!
YOU'RE KIDDING!... NOT WITH ALL HIS MONEY! LOOK AT THIS, HE'S FILTHY RICH!

WE'VE GOT THEM NOW!
!?

PASS ME THE TEN WRENCH.
NOT THIS ONE, IDIOT!... THE SOCKET WRENCH!
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED, I SEE. ALWAYS BITCHING.
?!
HEY, IT'S A GHOST!... BEEN A LONG TIME!... THE CAR STILL RUNNING WELL?
WHAT CAR?!
THE ONE YOU BORROWED TWO YEARS AGO!... YOU SAID YOU'D RETURN IT THE NEXT DAY, BUT I NEVER SAW YOU AGAIN!... I OWE YOU A BEATING!
YEAH, WE'LL SEE 'BOUT THAT LATER... FOR NOW, GET YOUR TORCH.
WHY?!
SO YOU CAN FIX THIS.
SHIT, YOU'RE ALL MESSED UP!... GOT MIXED UP IN SOME MISCHIEF AGAIN, EH?
NAH.

MY ASS!... IT'D TAKE A HEAVY CALIBRE ROUND TO DO THAT DAMAGE... YOU GOT SHOT, RIGHT?
NAH... AND I'M GETTING TIRED OF THE QUESTIONS.
WELL, I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOUR BULLSHIT!... IT'S GONE ON TOO LONG!... EVERY TIME YOU'RE IN A PICKLE YOU SHOW UP, AND ENOUGH'S ENOUGH!... I DON'T NEED TROUBLE WITH THE LAW ON ACCOUNT OF YOU!... SO, PISS OFF!
DON'T BE A DICK!... YOU CAN'T JUST DROP ME... REMEMBER WHAT MOM SAID: NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, ALWAYS STICK TOGETHER LIKE TWO FINGERS ON A HAND.
SPARE ME THE ANCIENT HISTORY, IT WON'T WORK ANYMORE!... GET LOST, AND DON'T SET FOOT HERE AGAIN!
HELLO?... AH, IT'S YOU BRASOV!... HAVE YOU RECOVERED THE GIRL?... NOT YET?... WHY?...
A... A SPERM WHALE?!...
YEAH!... IT WAS PROWLING NEAR THE COAST, NO DOUBT LOOKING FOR FOOD. I NEVER SAW IT COMING... IT PULVERIZED THE SUBMARINE AND TORE OFF HALF MY FALSE LEG.
I MANAGED TO DRAG MYSELF TO MY BROTHER'S GARAGE WHERE HE'S KINDLY OFFERED TO FIX ME UP... AT THE END OF THE DAY, YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON FAMILY! HA! HA!.. WHAT?... ALRIGHT, I'LL CALL BACK WHEN IT'S REPAIRED... TILL LATER!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I'M GLAD MOM'S DEAD. IF SHE COULD SEE YOU NOW WITH A GUN TO MY HEAD, SHE'D DIE OF SHAME.
SHUT UP AND WELD!

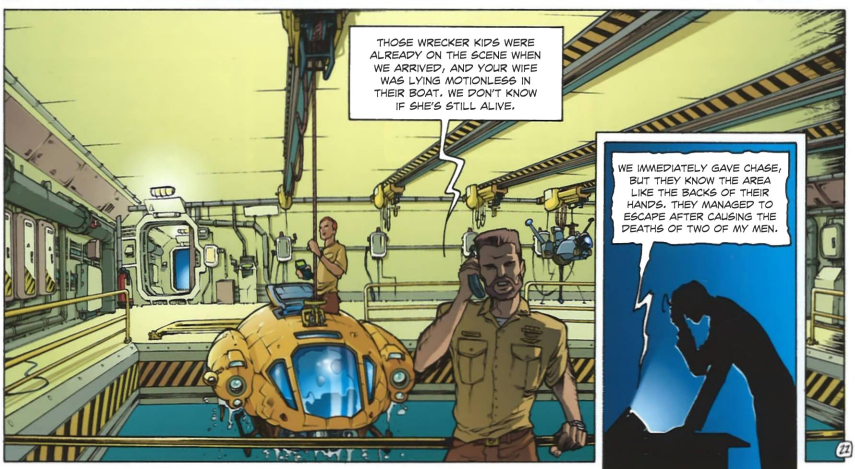
WELL?... DID YOU FIND THE WRECKAGE?
YES!... IT'S THIRTY METERS DOWN AND BROKEN IN TWO!... NO SIGN OF THE BLACK BOX, HOWEVER! ...I LOOKED EVERYWHERE!

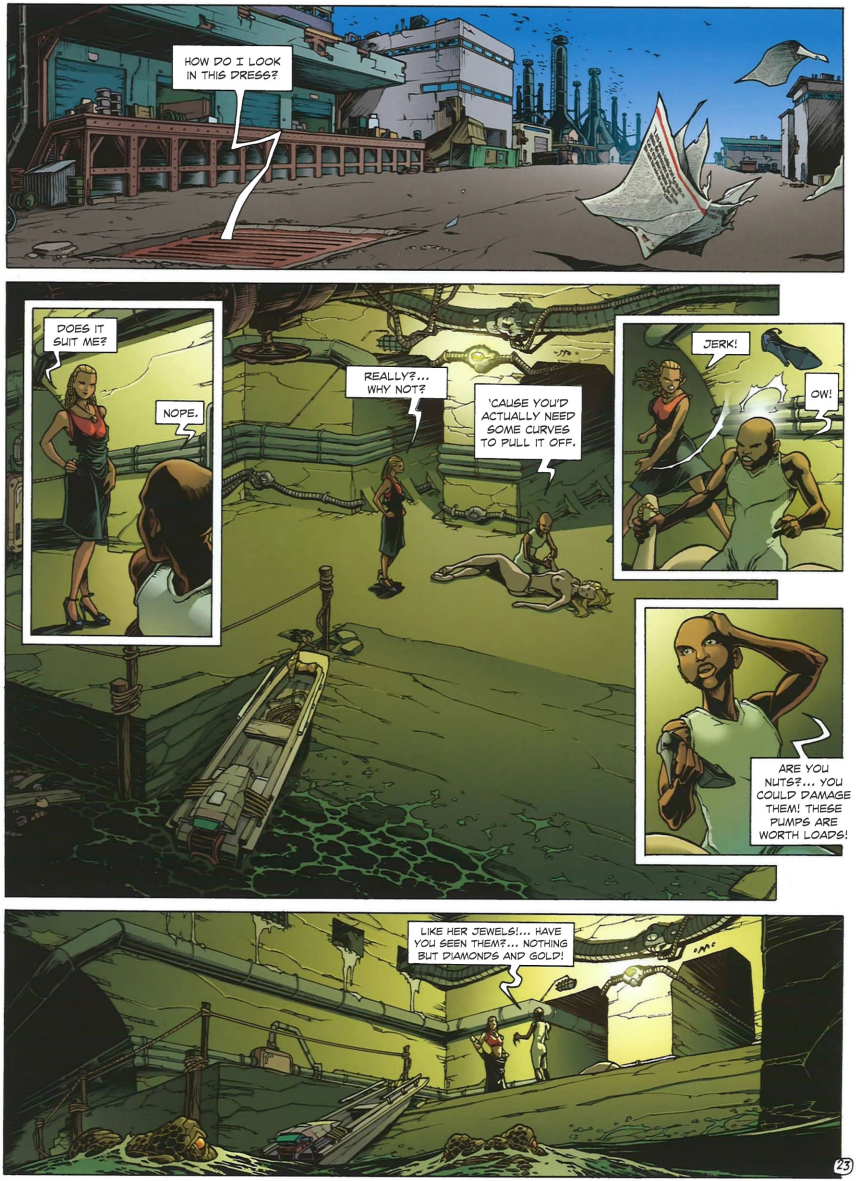
PITY!... WITHOUT IT, WE'LL NEVER KNOW THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT!
IN ANY CASE, IT'S DEFINITELY JESSICA BANKS' PRIVATE JET!... IT WAS ONLY HER AND THE PILOT ON BOARD.

HELLO?... PARDON?... YES, HE'S HERE. HIS MEETING IS JUST FINISHING. HOLD THE LINE; I'LL GET HIM.

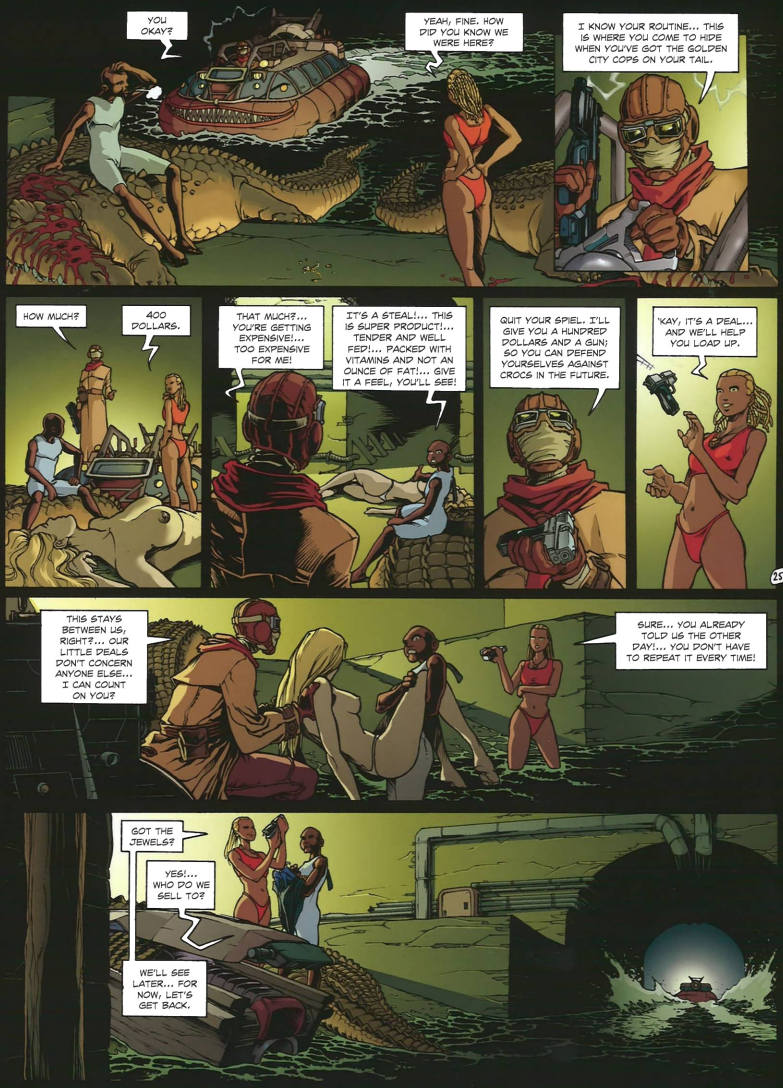
MISTER PRESIDENT, IT'S COMMANDER GRIFFITH. HE WANTS TO SPEAK TO YOU. HE SAYS IT'S URGENT.

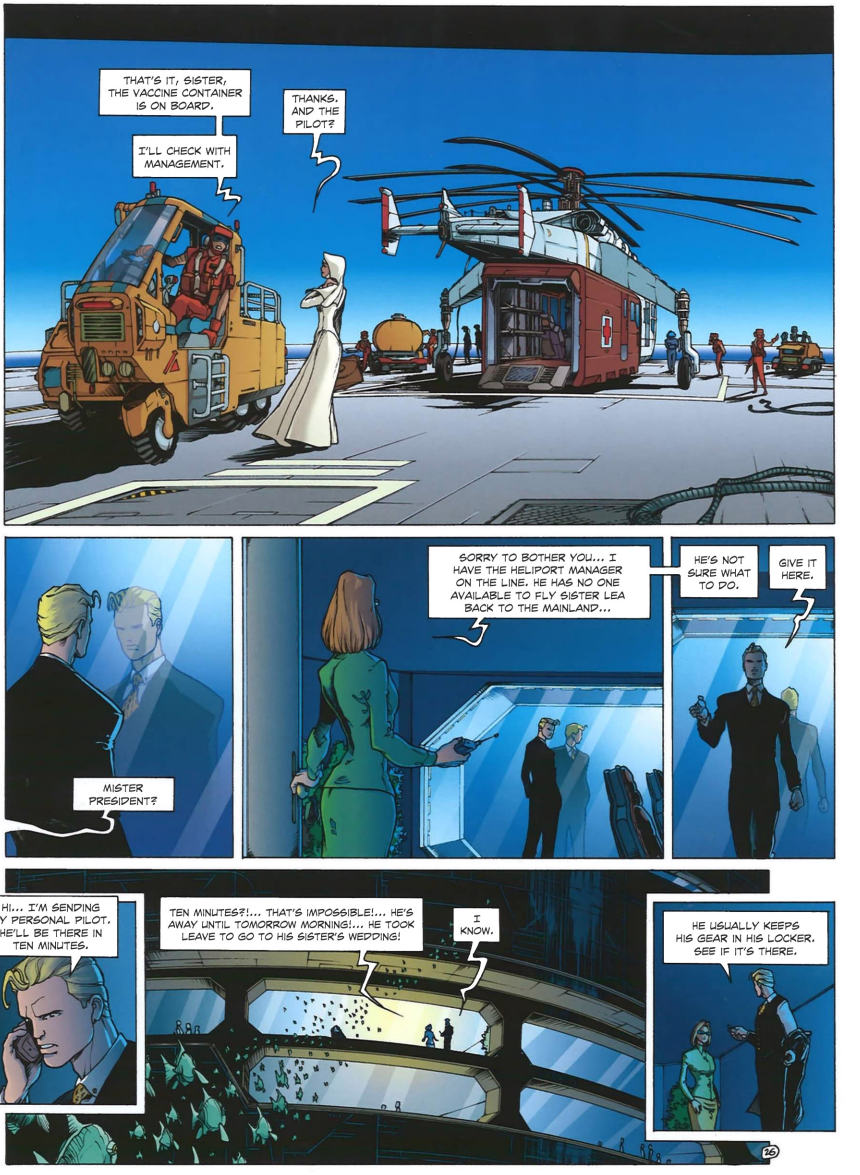
HELLO, MISTER PRESIDENT. I'M AFRAID I HAVE BAD NEWS. THE PLANE CARRYING YOUR WIFE CRASHED INTO THE SEA A NAUTICAL MILE FROM THE COAST.


THOSE WRECKER KIDS WERE ALREADY ON THE SCENE WHEN WE ARRIVED, AND YOUR WIFE WAS LYING MOTIONLESS IN THEIR BOAT. WE DON'T KNOW IF SHE'S STILL ALIVE.
WE IMMEDIATELY GAVE CHASE, BUT THEY KNOW THE AREA LIKE THE BACKS OF THEIR HANDS. THEY MANAGED TO ESCAPE AFTER CAUSING THE DEATHS OF TWO OF MY MEN.

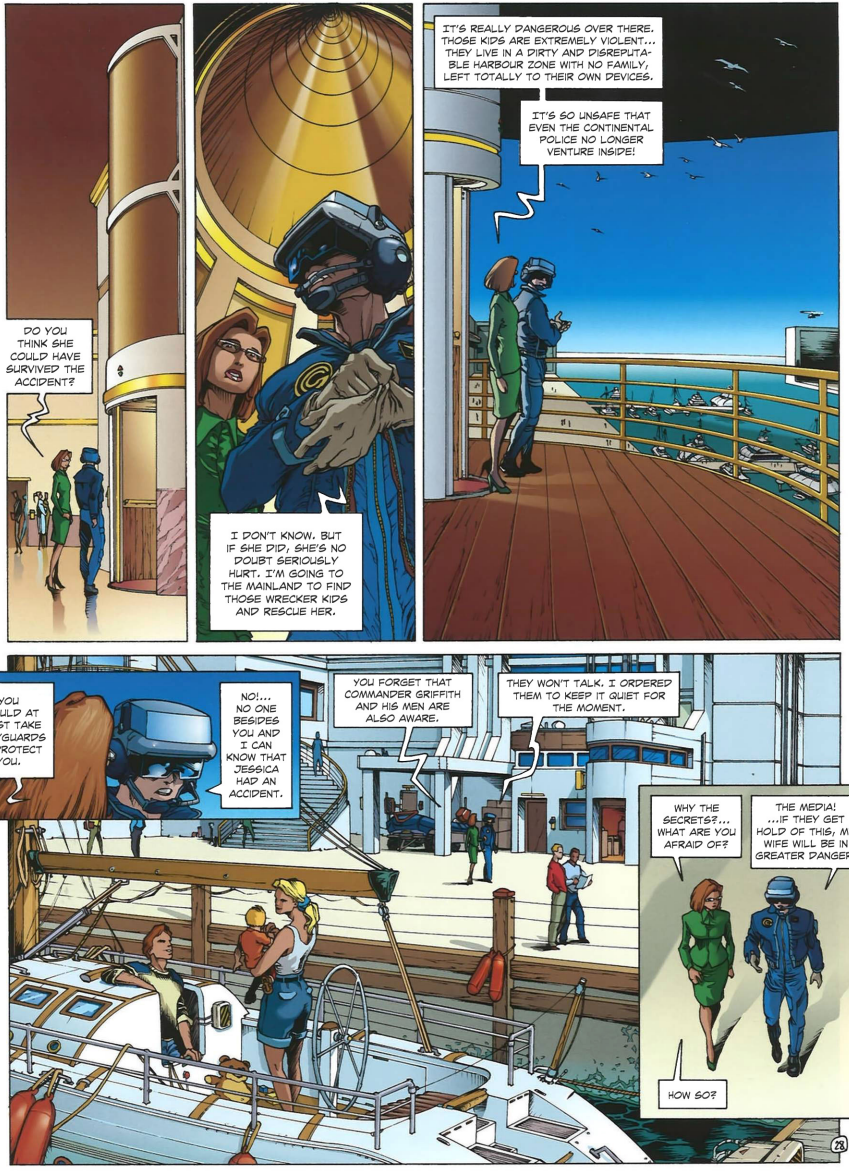

HOW DO I LOOK IN THIS DRESS?
DOES IT SUIT ME?
NOPE.
REALLY?... WHY NOT?
'CAUSE YOU'D ACTUALLY NEED SOME CURVES TO PULL IT OFF.
JERK!
OW!
ARE YOU NUTS?... YOU COULD DAMAGE THEM! THESE PUMPS ARE WORTH LOADS!
LIKE HER JEWELS!... HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?... NOTHING BUT DIAMONDS AND GOLD!

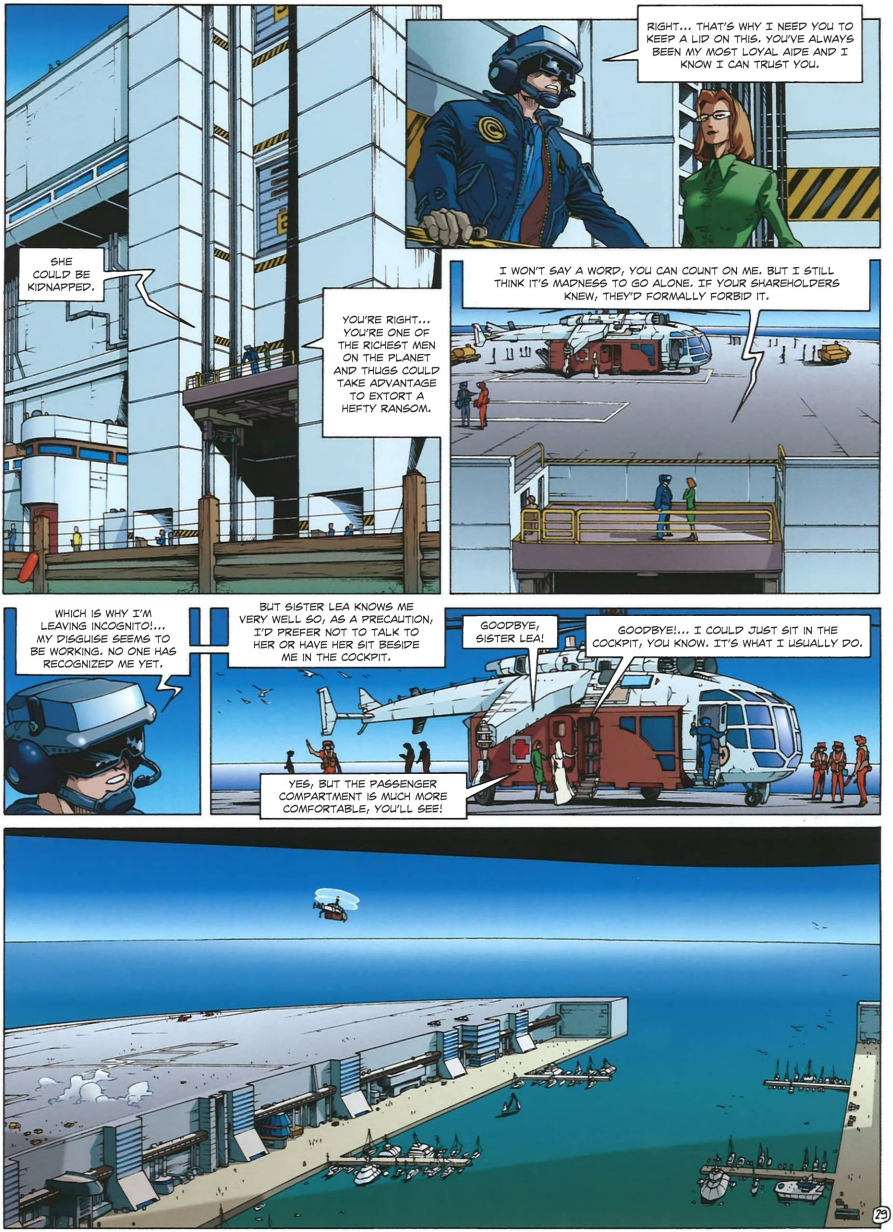
?!
?!
AAHHHH
24


YOU OKAY?
YEAH, FINE. HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WERE HERE?
I KNOW YOUR ROUTINE... THIS IS WHERE YOU COME TO HIDE WHEN YOU'VE GOT THE GOLDEN CITY COPS ON YOUR TAIL.
HOW MUCH?
400 DOLLARS.
THAT MUCH?... YOU'RE GETTING EXPENSIVE!... TOO EXPENSIVE FOR ME!
IT'S A STEAL!... THIS IS SUPER PRODUCT!... TENDER AND WELL FED!... PACKED WITH VITAMINS AND NOT AN OUNCE OF FAT!... GIVE IT A FEEL, YOU'LL SEE!
QUIT YOUR SPIEL. I'LL GIVE YOU A HUNDRED DOLLARS AND A GUN; SO YOU CAN DEFEND YOURSELVES AGAINST CROCS IN THE FUTURE.
'KAY, IT'S A DEAL... AND WE'LL HELP YOU LOAD UP.
25
THIS STAYS BETWEEN US, RIGHT?... OUR LITTLE DEALS DON'T CONCERN ANYONE ELSE... I CAN COUNT ON YOU?
SURE... YOU ALREADY TOLD US THE OTHER DAY!... YOU DON'T HAVE TO REPEAT IT EVERY TIME!
GOT THE JEWELS?
YES!... WHO DO WE SELL TO?
WE'LL SEE LATER... FOR NOW, LET'S GET BACK.


THAT'S IT, SISTER, THE VACCINE CONTAINER IS ON BOARD.
I'LL CHECK WITH MANAGEMENT.
THANKS. AND THE PILOT?
MISTER PRESIDENT?
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU... I HAVE THE HELIPORT MANAGER ON THE LINE. HE HAS NO ONE AVAILABLE TO FLY SISTER LEA BACK TO THE MAINLAND...
HE'S NOT SURE WHAT TO DO.
GIVE IT HERE.
HI... I'M SENDING MY PERSONAL PILOT. HE'LL BE THERE IN TEN MINUTES.
TEN MINUTES?!... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!... HE'S AWAY UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING!... HE TOOK LEAVE TO GO TO HIS SISTER'S WEDDING!
I KNOW.
HE USUALLY KEEPS HIS GEAR IN HIS LOCKER. SEE IF IT'S THERE.

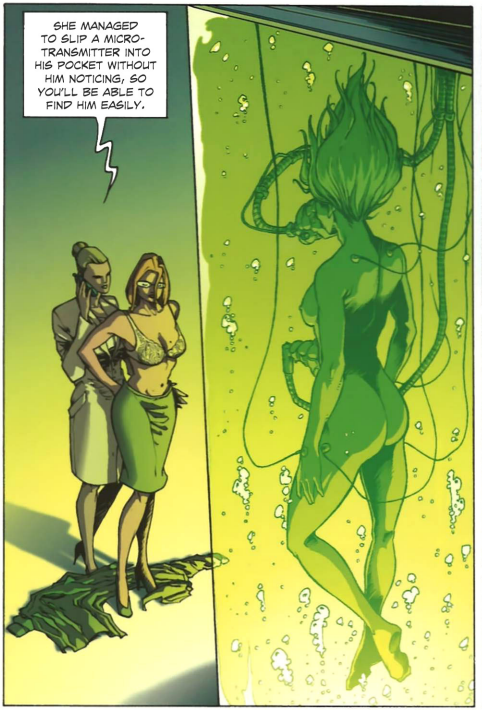
YES... HIS SUIT AND HELMET ARE BOTH HERE.
PERFECT!... BRING THEM TO ME.
WE'RE THE SAME SIZE, THIS COULD WORK.
HOW SO?!... YOU MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO FLY SISTER LEA PERSONALLY?
YES.
OH?!... BUT WHY?
BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY WAY FOR ME TO LEAVE GOLDEN CITY INCOGNITO.
DRESSED LIKE THIS, MY FACE HIDDEN BY THE VISOR, DO YOU THINK I'D BE RECOGNIZED?
NO.
I WISH I COULD UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE DOING THIS?!
SO I CAN TRY TO FIND MY WIFE!... NOW, COME WITH ME. I'LL NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE.


DO YOU THINK SHE COULD HAVE SURVIVED THE ACCIDENT?
I DON'T KNOW. BUT IF SHE DID, SHE'S NO DOUBT SERIOUSLY HURT. I'M GOING TO THE MAINLAND TO FIND THOSE WRECKER KIDS AND RESCUE HER.
IT'S REALLY DANGEROUS OVER THERE. THOSE KIDS ARE EXTREMELY VIOLENT... THEY LIVE IN A DIRTY AND DISREPUTABLE HARBOUR ZONE WITH NO FAMILY, LEFT TOTALLY TO THEIR OWN DEVICES.
IT'S SO UNSAFE THAT EVEN THE CONTINENTAL POLICE NO LONGER VENTURE INSIDE!
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST TAKE BODYGUARDS TO PROTECT YOU.
NO!... NO ONE BESIDES YOU AND I CAN KNOW THAT JESSICA HAD AN ACCIDENT.
YOU FORGET THAT COMMANDER GRIFFITH AND HIS MEN ARE ALSO AWARE.
THEY WON'T TALK. I ORDERED THEM TO KEEP IT QUIET FOR THE MOMENT.
WHY THE SECRETS?... WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?
THE MEDIA! ...IF THEY GET HOLD OF THIS, MY WIFE WILL BE IN GREATER DANGER.
HOW SO?


RIGHT... THAT'S WHY I NEED YOU TO KEEP A LID ON THIS. YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN MY MOST LOYAL AIDE AND I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU.
SHE COULD BE KIDNAPPED.
YOU'RE RIGHT... YOU'RE ONE OF THE RICHEST MEN ON THE PLANET AND THUGS COULD TAKE ADVANTAGE TO EXTORT A HEFTY RANSOM.
I WON'T SAY A WORD, YOU CAN COUNT ON ME. BUT I STILL THINK IT'S MADNESS TO GO ALONE. IF YOUR SHAREHOLDERS KNEW, THEY'D FORMALLY FORBID IT.
WHICH IS WHY I'M LEAVING INCOGNITO!... MY DISGUISE SEEMS TO BE WORKING. NO ONE HAS RECOGNIZED ME YET.
BUT SISTER LEA KNOWS ME VERY WELL SO, AS A PRECAUTION, I'D PREFER NOT TO TALK TO HER OR HAVE HER SIT BESIDE ME IN THE COCKPIT.
GOODBYE, SISTER LEA!
GOODBYE!... I COULD JUST SIT IN THE COCKPIT, YOU KNOW. IT'S WHAT I USUALLY DO.
YES, BUT THE PASSENGER COMPARTMENT IS MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE, YOU'LL SEE!

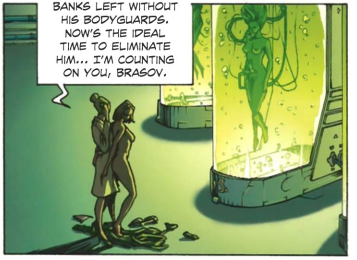
THERE, IT'S DONE... YOU CAN TAKE YOUR GUN AND SCRAM.
IT'S NOT PRETTY... I HOPE IT'S SOLID AT LEAST.
281-A
IT IS... I USED AN ULTRA-DURABLE ALLOY. THE SAME STUFF I USED TO REPAIR THIS OLD BIRD.
NICE MUSEUM PIECE. WHEN WAS SHE BUILT?
2066. SHE'S BEEN ROTTING AWAY IN A MILITARY JUNK-YARD FOR YEARS. I PUT SIX MONTHS INTO RESTOR-ING THIS BEAUTY.
HELLO; THIS IS BRASOV... REPAIRS ARE COMPLETE. I'LL TRY TO FIND A NEW SUBMARINE TO RECOVER THE PLANE'S PASSE... WHAT?!
ALREADY RECOVERED? BY WHO?!
WRECKERS... THEY TOOK HER TO THE MAINLAND. HARRISON BANKS HAS JUST LEFT IN SEARCH OF HER.
YOU'RE SURE?... WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW BUT IN WHOM I HAVE TOTAL CONFIDENCE. SHE'S VERY CLOSE TO BANKS, WHO HAS ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA THAT SHE WORKS FOR ME.


SHE MANAGED TO SLIP A MICRO-TRANSMITTER INTO HIS POCKET WITHOUT HIM NOTICING, SO YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FIND HIM EASILY.

PERFECT!... GIVE ME THE TRANSMITTER'S FREQUENCY AND I'LL GET TO WORK...

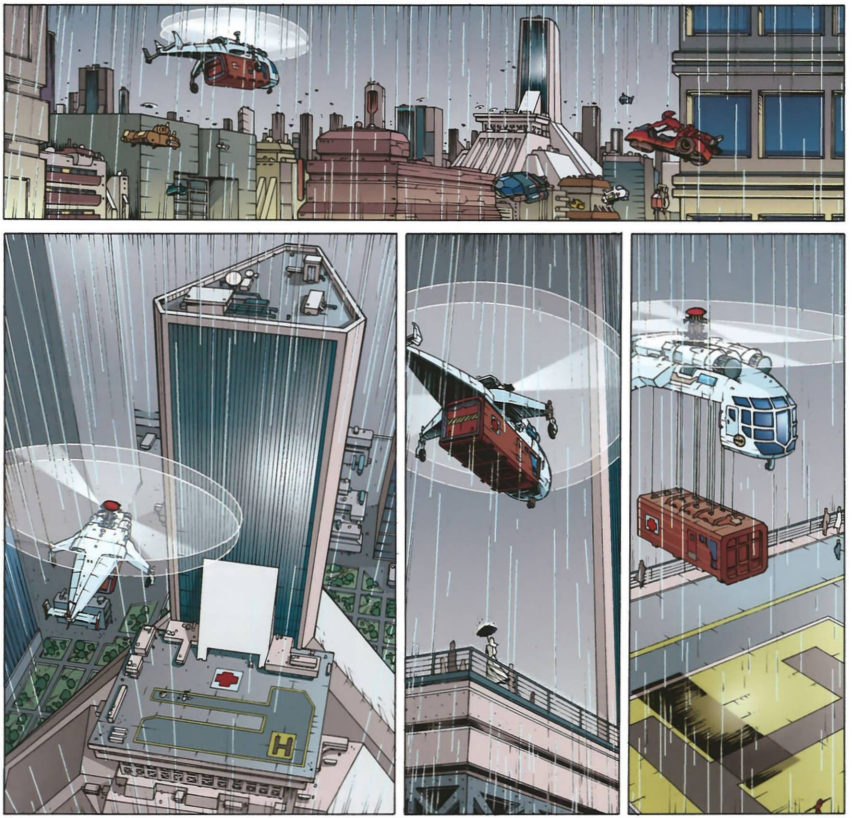
OK! I'VE GOT IT!

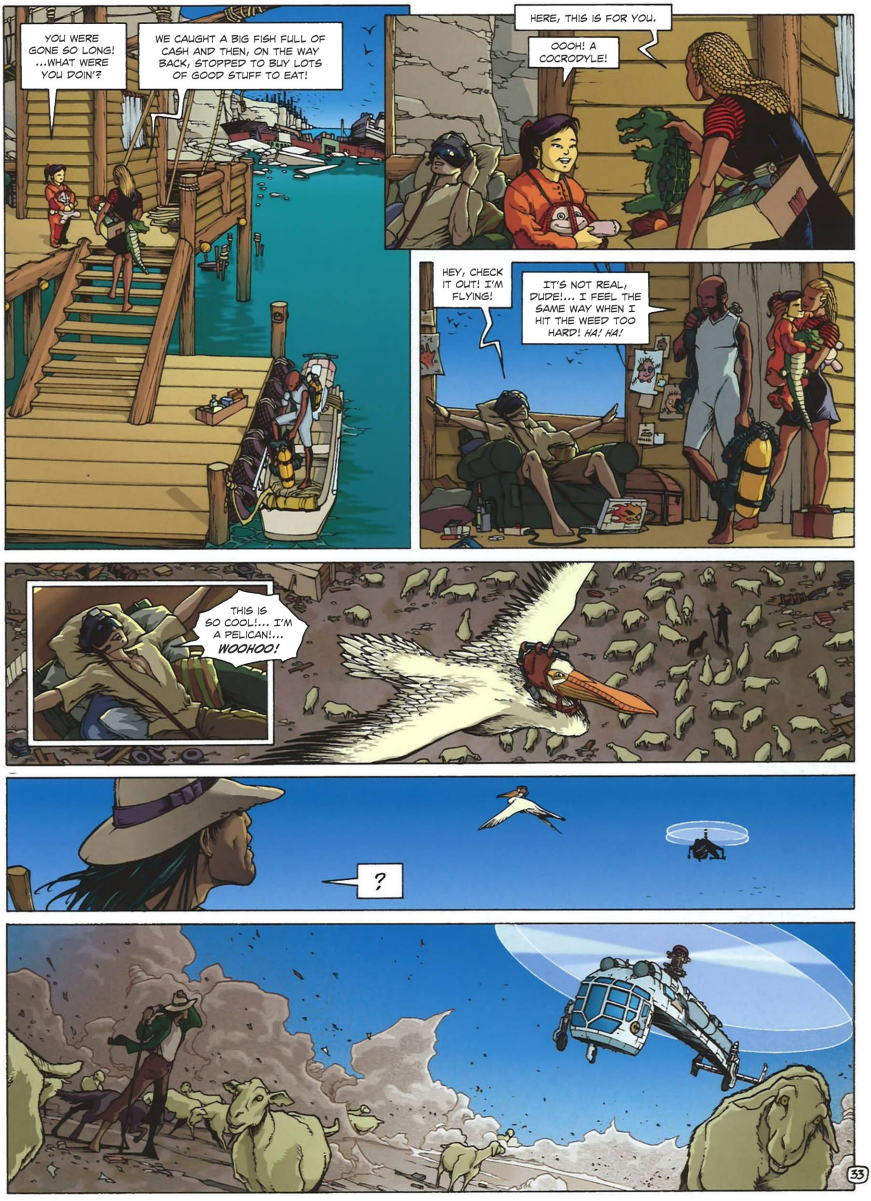

BANKS LEFT WITHOUT HIS BODYGUARDS. NOW'S THE IDEAL TIME TO ELIMINATE HIM... I'M COUNTING ON YOU, BRASOV.

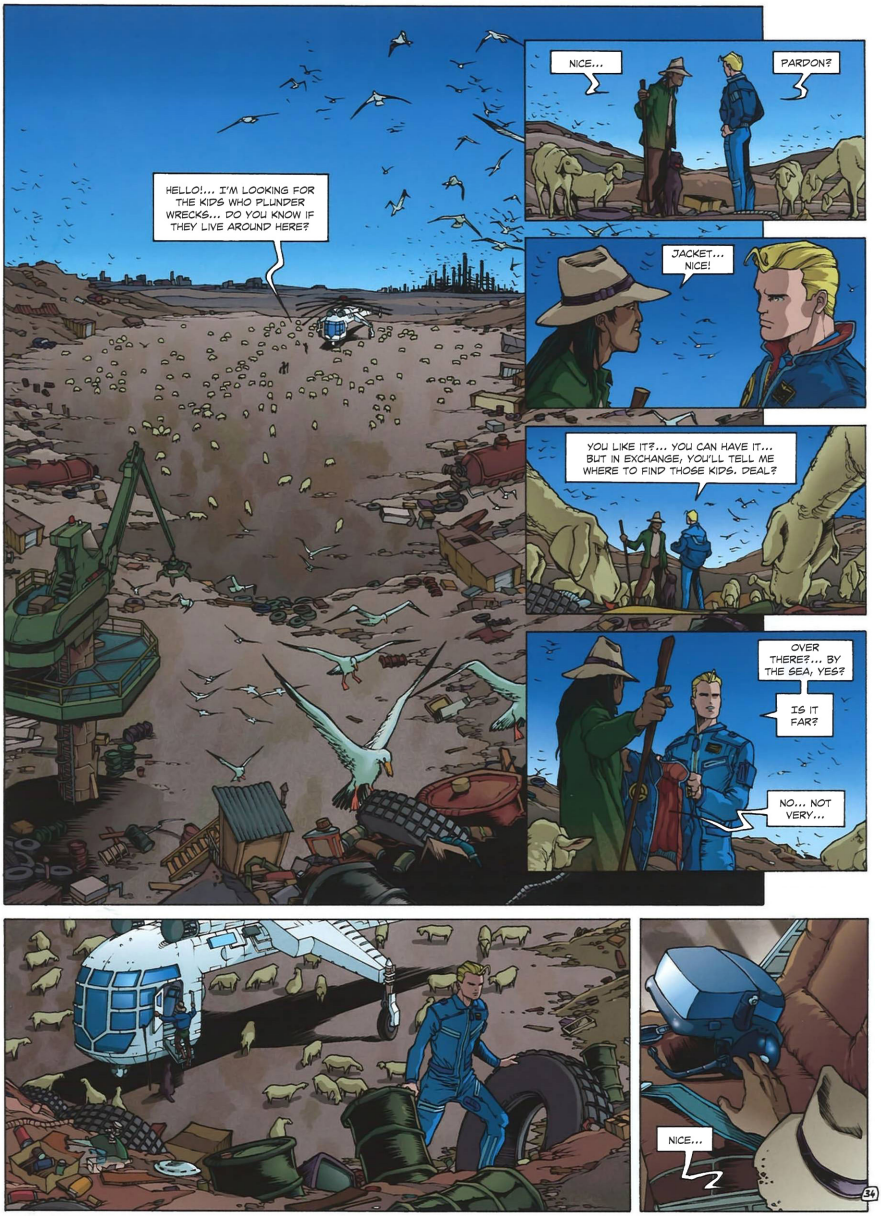
IT'S AS GOOD AS DONE. HE'LL BE DEAD BY NIGHTFALL... YOU CAN WRITE UP AND PRINT THE OBITUARY.

YOU SAID THAT BIRD'S IN WORKING ORDER?
YEAH, WHY?

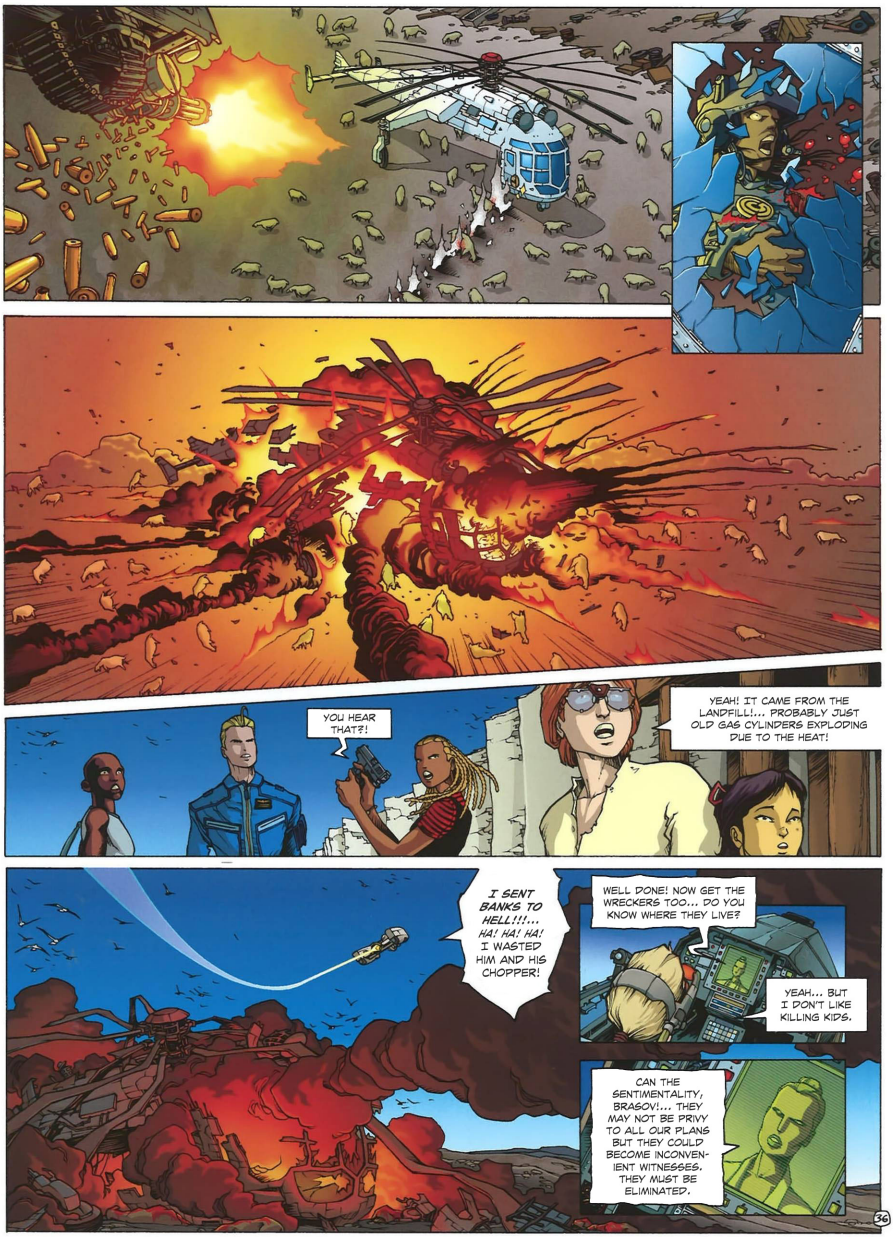
BECAUSE I NEED IT.


HOW DID IT GO IN GOLDEN CITY?
IT WASN'T EASY... BANKS IMPOSED CONDITIONS ON ME. I WAS SO ANGRY!
DON'T BLAME HIM: HE HAS TO ANSWER TO HIS SHAREHOLDERS AND CAN'T JUST DO AS HE PLEASES... HE'S A VERY GENEROUS BOY WHO ALWAYS FINDS A WAY TO HELP US.
THAT'S TRUE... THIS TIME, HE PUT HIS PERSONAL PILOT AT MY DISPOSAL TO BRING ME HERE.


YOU WERE GONE SO LONG! ...WHAT WERE YOU DOIN'?
WE CAUGHT A BIG FISH FULL OF CASH AND THEN, ON THE WAY BACK, STOPPED TO BUY LOTS OF GOOD STUFF TO EAT!
HERE, THIS IS FOR YOU.
OOOH! A COCRODYLE!
HEY, CHECK IT OUT! I'M FLYING!
IT'S NOT REAL, DUDE!... I FEEL THE SAME WAY WHEN I HIT THE WEED TOO HARD! HA! HA!
THIS IS SO COOL!... I'M A PELICAN!... WOOHOO!
?


HELLO!... I'M LOOKING FOR THE KIDS WHO PLUNDER WRECKS... DO YOU KNOW IF THEY LIVE AROUND HERE?
NICE...
PARDON?
JACKET... NICE!
YOU LIKE IT?... YOU CAN HAVE IT... BUT IN EXCHANGE, YOU'LL TELL ME WHERE TO FIND THOSE KIDS. DEAL?
OVER THERE?... BY THE SEA, YES?
IS IT FAR?
NO... NOT VERY...
NICE...

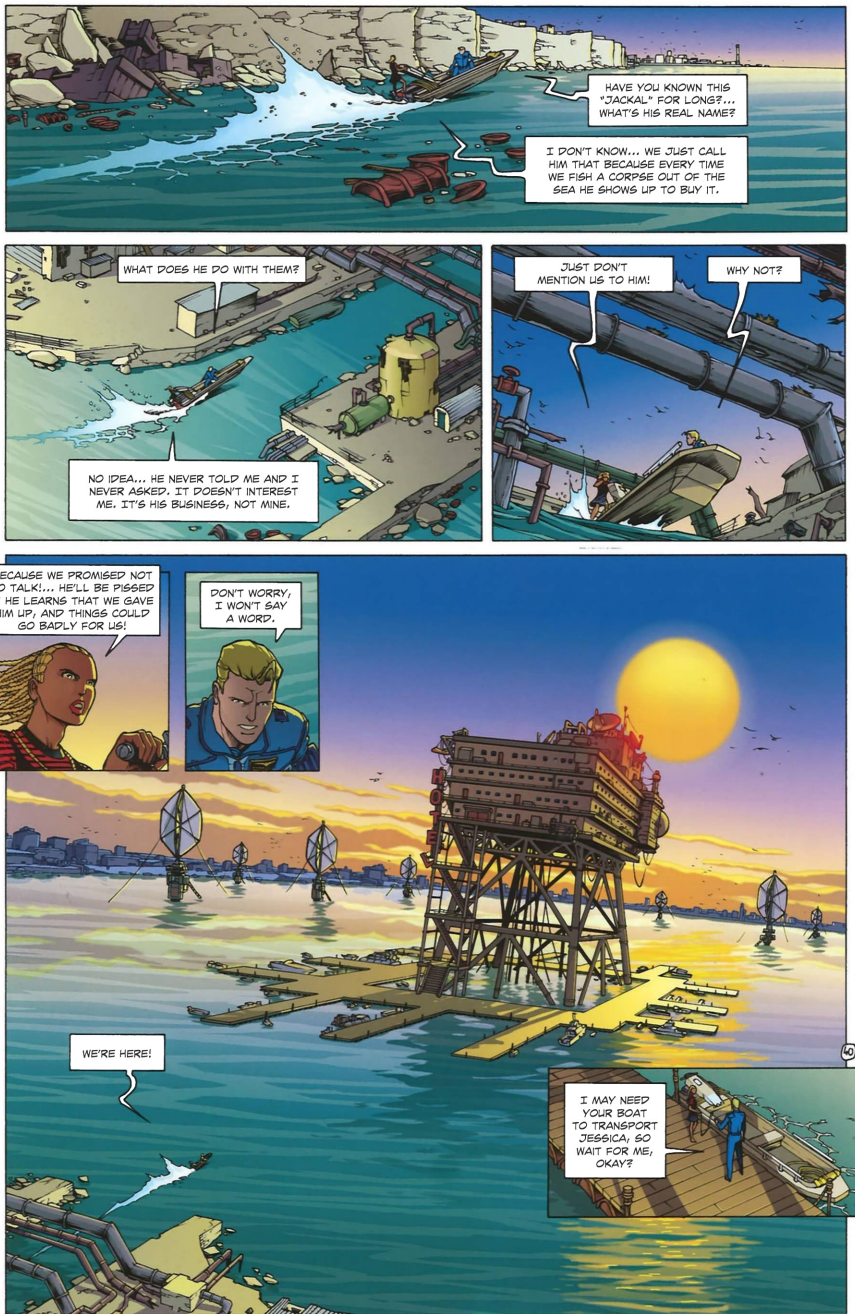
BIP! BIP! BIP!
THE SIGNAL'S GETTING STRONGER... IT WON'T BE LONG TILL I SEE OL' BANKSY!
BIP! BIP! BIP!
I'M LOOKING FOR JESSICA BANKS.
NEVER HEARD OF HER!... WHO'S SHE?
ONE MORE STEP AND I'LL SHOOT!... WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT DO YOU WANT?
MY WIFE. THAT'S HER BRACELET ON YOUR WRIST.
35
THERE YOU ARE!


YOU HEAR THAT?!
YEAH! IT CAME FROM THE LANDFILL!... PROBABLY JUST OLD GAS CYLINDERS EXPLODING DUE TO THE HEAT!
I SENT BANKS TO HELL!!!... HA! HA! HA! I WASTED HIM AND HIS CHOPPER!
WELL DONE! NOW GET THE WRECKERS TOO... DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY LIVE?
YEAH... BUT I DON'T LIKE KILLING KIDS.
CAN THE SENTIMENTALITY, BRAGOV!... THEY MAY NOT BE PRIVY TO ALL OUR PLANS BUT THEY COULD BECOME INCONVENIENT WITNESSES. THEY MUST BE ELIMINATED.

YOU CAN KEEP THE JEWELS. I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHERE MY WIFE IS.
?
?!
?!
?
?!

LOOK OUT!... HE'S COMING BACK!... TAKE COVER!
GO JOIN YOUR FRIENDS, SWEETIE!... QUICKLY!... JUMP IN!
I CAN'T SWIM...
281-A

THAT GUY'S A FREAKING LUNATIC!... WHY DID HE STRAFE US LIKE THAT?!
MY COCRODYLE IS RUINED!
DON'T CRY, HONEY. HERE, YOU CAN BUY A NEW ONE.
ALL... ALL FOR ME?!
CAREFUL, KUMIKO. THE RICH DON'T GIVE ANYTHING FOR NOTHING. WHEN THEY SPEND MONEY, THEY EXPECT SOMETHING IN RETURN... NEWS OF HIS GIRL, FOR EXAMPLE.
TO GET IT, HE'LL HAVE TO SPEND LOTS MORE!
HOW MUCH?
THOUSAND DOLLARS!
HERE'S FIVE HUNDRED.
AND THE REST?
FIRST, TELL ME ABOUT MY WIFE.
THEY SOLD HER TO THE JACKAL!


HAVE YOU KNOWN THIS "JACKAL" FOR LONG?... WHAT'S HIS REAL NAME?
I DON'T KNOW... WE JUST CALL HIM THAT BECAUSE EVERY TIME WE FISH A CORPSE OUT OF THE SEA HE SHOWS UP TO BUY IT.
WHAT DOES HE DO WITH THEM?
NO IDEA... HE NEVER TOLD ME AND I NEVER ASKED. IT DOESN'T INTEREST ME, IT'S HIS BUSINESS, NOT MINE.
JUST DON'T MENTION US TO HIM!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE WE PROMISED NOT TO TALK!... HE'LL BE PISSED IF HE LEARNS THAT WE GAVE HIM UP, AND THINGS COULD GO BADLY FOR US!
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T SAY A WORD.
WE'RE HERE!
I MAY NEED YOUR BOAT TO TRANSPORT JESSICA, SO WAIT FOR ME, OKAY?
40

DON'T FORGET OUR DEAL!
PARDON?
MY REWARD... THE FIVE HUNDRED BUCKS YOU OWE ME. HAND IT OVER.
LATER... AT LEAST THAT WAY I KNOW YOU'LL WAIT FOR ME.
WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO TRUSTING PEOPLE?
EXIT
HOW MANY CARDS?...
ONE!
YOU?
THREE.

HUNDRED.
TWO HUNDRED.
FOUR HUNDRED.
I'M OUT.
I'LL SEE YOUR FOUR HUNDRED.
FOUR LADIES!
I'M JUST LOOKING FOR ONE: MINE!
?!
YOU BOUGHT HER THIS MORNING! ...WHERE DID YOU TAKE HER?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
AND I DON'T LIKE BEING DISTURBED WHEN I PLAY POKER!

MORON!... YOU GOT BEER ALL OVER MY BRAND NEW DRESS!
BANG! BANG!... KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR GUN?
NOPE.
YOUR GUN CAN BLOW ITS LOAD SEVERAL TIMES IN A ROW! HA! HA!
KNOCK! KNOCK!

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, SERGEANT, BUT THERE'S A FIGHT DOWNSTAIRS.
SO?... CAN'T YOU SEE I'M BUSY?
YES, BUT IF YOU DON'T COME NOW THEY'LL SMASH EVERYTHING.
CALL THE BOSS, SHE'LL CALM THEM DOWN WITH HER SHOTGUN.
SHE'S NOT HERE... SHE WENT SHOPPING DOWNTOWN.
SHIT!... A GUY CAN'T EVEN FUCK IN PEACE IN THIS GODDAMN BROTHEL!
EXIT

WHERE IS MY WIFE?!
?!
AAAHHH...

WELL?
STILL NOTHING... HE HASN'T SURFACED.
NO KIDDING!... FALLS LIKE THAT ARE UNFORGIVING... I BET HE HIT THE DOCK AND WENT STRAIGHT TO THE BOTTOM. HE MUST BE DEAD BY NOW.
POOR GUY. HE NEVER DID HAVE ANY LUCK WITH LADIES...
SHOW ME YOUR HANDS.
ME?!... WHY?
'CAUSE I'M ARRESTING YOU FOR MURDER.
I DIDN'T KILL HIM!... HE JUST FELL!
YOU THINK I'M STUPID?
NO, I SWEAR!... THE RAILING WAS RUSTY! HE LEANED AGAINST IT AND...
SHUT UP AND CLIMB ABOARD. YOU CAN EXPLAIN AT THE STATION.
POLICE
46
WHAT ABOUT MY FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS?!
TO BE CONTINUED.
PECQUEUR & MALFIN

Genre
Adventure

•

THE CHARACTERS

BANKS: The director of one of the most powerful pharmaceutical companies in the world, and husband to Jessica. Grew up in Golden City, an exclusive floating metropolis reserved only for the rich.

MIFA, APPLE, SOLO and KUMIKO: Orphans who were thrown out onto the streets. They've become a family, and live as Wreckers, plundering wrecks in the ocean depths.

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THE STORY

Spring 2099. When Harrison Banks learns that his wife Jessica was lost in a plane crash at sea, he goes looking for her. He's unaware of the terrible reality that he's a victim of a conspiracy and that his troubles are only just beginning...